

In the Claims

1.-14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) A direct spin-draw method of producing multifilament yarn, which has a strength ~~from a stress-strain curve~~ of at least 3 cN/dtex, a Young's modulus of no more than 25 cN/dtex, a minimum value of a differential Young's modulus at 3 – 10% extension of no more than 6.6 cN/dtex, and an elastic recovery following 10% elongation of at least 90%, wherein a polymer substantially comprising polytrimethylene terephthalate of intrinsic viscosity (η) at least 0.7 is melt spun and hauled-off via a first heated roll at a spinning rate of at least 2000 m/min and, without winding up, subjected to drawing performed between the first heated roll and a second heated roll at low draw rate to keep breaking extension of the yarn at 40% or more, and continuously subjected to a heat-treatment at the second roll and a relaxation heat treatment at a relaxation factor of 10 to 20% between the second heated roll and a third roll or between the second heated roll and a winder, using the second heated roll of surface roughness 1.5S - 8S at 105 - 180°C, by plural laps of the yarn, after which it is continuously subjected to an interlacing treatment to make its CF value 1 - 30 between the second heated roll and the winder and wound up as a package.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of producing polyester yarn according to Claim 15, wherein the intrinsic viscosity of the polytrimethylene terephthalate is at least 0.8.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of producing polyester yarn according to Claim 15, wherein melt spinning is carried out at a temperature 20 - 50°C higher than the melting point of the polytrimethylene terephthalate.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of producing polyester yarn according to Claim 15, wherein the polytrimethylene terephthalate is hauled-off at a spinning rate of at least 3,000 m/min.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of producing polyester yarn according to Claim 15, wherein the relaxation heat treatment is carried out at a relaxation factor of 8 to 18%.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously Presented) The method of producing polyester yarn according to Claim 15, wherein the second heated roll has surface roughness 3.2S - 6.3S.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of producing polyester yarn according to Claim 15, wherein the drawing temperature is 10 - 50°C higher than the glass transition temperature of polytrimethylene terephthalate.

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Previously Presented) The method of producing polyester yarn according to Claim 15, wherein the drawing is carried out at low draw rate, that the polyester yarn have strength from a stress-strain curve of at least 3 cN/dtex and a breaking extension of at least 42%.

25.-28. (Cancelled)

29. (New) The method of producing polyester yarn according to Claim 15, further comprising reducing the frictional coefficient between the yarn and the second heated roll to cause a desired amount of slip so that there is no winding of the yarn back on the second heated roll at a high relaxation factor by using the second heated roll of surface roughness 1.5S - 8S at 105 - 180°C.